

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION**FUDAN UNIVERSITY SUMMER PROGRAM, 2016*****Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday: 9:00am –11:45am***

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OVERVIEW

Welcome to Intercultural Communication! The purpose of this course is to expand your understanding of the role of culture in shaping the ways in which we communicate with and relate to others. Culture can be broadly defined as a system of taken-for-granted assumptions about the world that influences how we think, feel, and act. This course will introduce you to major theories and concepts of intercultural communication from a variety of perspectives, and we will look at many of the different processes that make up cultural differences, and examine how these theories and concepts can guide us to communicate competently in intercultural communication settings. In addition, we will engage in critical discussions about the role of culture and communication in (re)constructing the collective human reality. Issues of identity, power, and control, as well as ways of transcending cultural and ethnic differences will be discussed.

TEXT

No textbook is required for the course. Readings will be distributed to the class.

EVALUATION

Essays (3 @ 10 points each)

There will be a total of three take-home essay assignments. Detailed instructions for each assignment will be provided later.

Exam (100 points)

A final exam will be given during the last week of class. You will be tested on materials that are covered in the readings and lectures. The exam will include mostly multiple-choice and true/false questions but may also include fill-in-the-blank or short answer questions.

Group Project (70 points)

You will work in a group of 5 on a project that focuses on a specific national, ethnic, or regional culture of your choice. The project should (a) describe, (b) explain, and (c) prescribe. For the descriptive element, you should choose ONE observable aspect of the verbal and/or nonverbal communication practices in the culture to show *how* members of the culture communicate differently than those from other cultures, and what misunderstanding or biases may arise from such differences. For the explanatory element, you should identify some theoretical explanations, based on cultural worldviews, values, cognitive styles, etc., that are less visible but nevertheless shed light on the processes leading to the differences. Finally, for the prescriptive element, you should provide a “toolkit” to your classmates for *how to* communicate effectively with members

from the culture. Audio-visual aids or creative ways of demonstrating the differences to engage your audience will be highly encouraged. This is a term project, requiring you and your group members to choose a topic and start working on it as soon as possible. Each group will give a **10-15 minute** presentation of the project in class.

Calculating Final Course Grade

A	94-100%	198-200 pts
A-	90-93.99%	180-197 pts
B+	87-89.99%	174-179 pts
B	84-86.99%	168-173 pts
B-	80-83.99%	160-167 pts
C+	77-79.99%	154-159 pts
C	74-76.99%	148-153 pts
C-	70-73.99%	140-147 pts
D	60-69.99%	120-139 pts
F	below 60%	below 120 pts

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance. Attendance and participation are vital if you are to do well in this course. Lecture material is often independent of what can be gleaned from the readings and will make up an important part of the exam. It is your responsibility to obtain information about what was discussed during missed classes. This includes any changes to the schedule that were announced orally, lecture notes, handouts, etc.

Equal treatment. A principle of equal treatment of all students will be a fundamental guide I use in responding to requests for special consideration. No student will be given an opportunity to improve a grade that is not made available to all members of the class. Examples of *unacceptable* opportunities for an individual include “extra credit” work such as retaking an exam or an extension of time on an assignment. However, this policy is not intended to exclude reasonable accommodation of verified urgencies or student disability.

Professionalism. Students are expected to be professional in terms of the quality of submitted assignments, the quality of the communicative interaction with classmates and the instructor, and general conduct.

- Arrive to class on time, and stay until class is dismissed.
- Avoid disruptive behavior during the class such as chatting, snoring, using the pencil sharpener, etc.
- Turn off or set in silent mode beepers or cell phones.
- If you must leave early, leave quietly by a back door if possible.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Topic
<i>Week 1</i>	
Monday, 7/10	Course Introduction; History & Study of Intercultural Communication
Tuesday, 7/11	Culture, Communication, Context
Wednesday, 7/12	Identity & Intercultural Communication
<i>Week 2</i>	
Monday, 7/17	Language & Intercultural Communication
Tuesday, 7/18	Nonverbal Codes & Cultural Space
Wednesday, 7/19	Intercultural Transitions
<i>Week 3</i>	
Monday, 7/24	Intercultural Relationship
Tuesday, 7/25	Intercultural Conflict
Wednesday, 7/26	Media, Technology, and Culture; Intercultural Communication Competence
<i>Week 4</i>	
Monday, 7/31	Research Day
Tuesday, 8/1	Group Presentations
Wednesday, 8/2	Final Exam